

Ray Martinez, Mayor Fort Collins, CO.

Ray Martinez is dedicated to the Fort Collins, Colorado community in which he grew up and has over 26 years experience in public service, after serving three years in the United States Army in Thailand and stateside duty. He began his career in the Fort Collins' Police department in 1974. During his tenure, he worked closely with Hispanic community leaders, youth and athletes to improve the relationships between the community and the Police. He also became an expert witness in the field of identification, recognition, and investigation of dangerous drugs.

Mr. Martinez was the lead investigator in an international terrorist investigation involving the attempted assassination of a Libyan student. The magnitude of this criminal episode is the subject of two published books: "Death Merchant" by Joseph Goulden and "Man Hunt" by Peter Maas. Mr. Martinez was the first Hispanic Sergeant in Fort Collins police service (appointed 1982) and retired from Police service in 1996 after twenty-five years of law enforcement service.

Public safety is one of the primary concerns of Mr. Martinez. He was dedicated to it as a police officer; it was the subject of his first book; and, as mayor he serves on two public safety boards. The United States Conference of Mayors appointed Mayor Ray Martinez as Co-Chair of the Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force. He also sits on the National League of Cities Steering Committee for Public Safety and Crime Prevention.

In May 1997, Ray Martinez was a nominee for the Nineteenth Annual Conrad L. Ball Award and recognized for "Outstanding Contribution to the Quality of Justice" presented by the Larimer County Community Corrections Board.

Mr. Martinez is an active member of several local advisory boards. With a particular interest in working with youth, he co-founded an organization known as "Neighborhoods United." Volunteers work directly with "at risk" youth to provide them with positive educational and recreational experiences and activities that will unite these young people with their neighborhoods and the community. Since 1988, Mr. Martinez has served as Chapter Advisory for the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Colorado State University. He was selected as Regional Chapter Advisor of the Year (1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999), as the quarterly National Chapter Advisor of the Year (1997), and Colorado State University's Greek Chapter Advisor of the Year (2000).

Other community boards on which Mr. Martinez serves include:

- Larimer County Office on Aging Advisory Council
- Partners Board of Directors
- Neighborhoods United
- Poudre High School Foundation Board of Directors
- The School Effectiveness Team (SET) at Poudre High School
- The School Improvement Team (SIT) at Lincoln Junior High School
- Colorado Youth Corps Association
- Governor Owens' appointment as Chair of the Minority Business Advisory Council

- The Fort Collins Community Foundation Board of Directors
- CSU Distinguished Member of "The National Society of Collegiate Scholars" for Outstanding Scholarship, Leadership and Service on April 13, 2001.
- Member and past Chair of the Colorado Municipal League Policy Committee
- Downtown Development Authority Board (alternate)
- Poudre Fire Authority Board of Directors
- Chair of the Longs Peak Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Breakfast Fund Raising Event (2002)
- TEAM Fort Collins Advisory Council
- Institute of Business and Medical Careers (IBMC) Advisory Board – Paralegal Division (November 2003)

Additionally, Mayor Martinez is the co-chair of the Mayors' and Police Chiefs' Committee for the United States Conference of Mayors. In January 2004, Mayor Martinez was appointed to the Defense Advisory Board for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. This Defense Advisory Board for ESGR serves to provide advice to the Secretary of Defense about issues concerning Reservists and their civilian employers including recommended policies and priorities for employer support actions and programs. It is composed of 20 members from across the United States.

Mr. Martinez is also a writer. He has published two books. The first is entitled "A Matter of Survival: Your Fight Against Burglars". His most recent book is entitled "Saturday's Opinion". In addition, he wrote a weekly column, for nearly two years for the local newspaper that addressed a wide range of subjects. Most of his stories are on his website: www.raymartinez.com.

While Mr. Martinez has written about others, he is featured in a book about notable men in northern Colorado. In 2002 Arlene Ahlbrandt, an historical author who has written several books, published "101 Memorable Men of Northern Colorado." Ray Martinez was recognized as one of the 101 memorable men.

Mayor Martinez was first elected to office in 1999, and then reelected in 2001 and 2003. He maintains a busy schedule of numerous meetings with citizens and community groups. Currently, he serves on the City Council's Legislative Review Committee and is on the Board of Directors of the Platte River Power Authority. We believe he is the first mayor in the nation to use "online-chat" on the Internet to communicate with citizens on a monthly basis. Additionally, he holds monthly public meetings in various parts of town, i.e. coffee shops, restaurants, banks, and senior centers.

In September 2001, Mayor Martinez spearheaded a community commitment to establish Fort Collins as a City of Character. The City Council approved a resolution initiating this effort. At the same time, the Larimer County Board of Commissioners and the Poudre School District Board of Education endorsed the character initiative by also approving resolutions and committing their organizations to building character.

On October 5, 2002 Mayor Martinez was honored by the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Leadership, Professionalism, Pride and Unity as a "first in his field"—a pioneer of Fort Collins and the State of Colorado.